

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 08570 160950Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 OMB-01
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R 160740Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 951
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 8570

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, PLO

SUBJECT: PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL CONCLUDES SESSION DEC. 14 AND
ANNOUNCES PNC WILL CONVENE NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1977

1. SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTED CONCLUSION OF PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL
SESSION AFTERNOON DEC. 14 AND ISSUANCE OF FINAL COMMUNIQUE.
PRESS BANNERED: PLO CC CONCLUDES ITS SESSION IN DAMASCUS
AND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON ITS WORK. SYRO-PALESTINIAN COHESION
STRENGTHENS ARAB SOLIDARITY AND ENSURES CONFRONTATION WITH
FORCES OF ZIONISM AND IMPERIALISM AND ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR
NATION'S GOALS. SUPPORT FOR RIYADH AND CAIRO SUMMIT RESES.
AND COMMITMENT TO STRUGGLE TO MAKE THEM SUCCEED. CC CALLS
FOR DEEPENING PALESTINAIN NATIONAL UNITY AND SALUTES OUR
PEOPLE IN OCCUPIED LAND AND THEIR STEADFASTNESS IN FACE
OF OCCUPATION."

2. COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT CC HAD DISCUSSED CONVOCAATION
OF PNC AND INCREASE IN ITS MEMBERSHIP, ADDING THAT "DATE
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FOR ITS CONVOCAATION WILL BE SET AND ANNOUNCED NO LATER

THAN FEBRUARY 1977." STATEMENT REPORTED THAT CC HAD
"ANALYZED AND ASSESSED LEBANESE CRISIS AND WELCOMED
CESSATION OF FIGHTING AND RETURN OF NORMALCY TO FRATERNAL
LEBANON." CC ALSO "WELCOMED RETURN OF NORMAL RELATIONS
BETWEEN PLO AND SYRIA." REFERENCE WAS MADE TO MEETING
WITH PRES. ASAD DURING WHICH "FRATERNAL AND FRANK CONVER-
SATION HELD ABOUT CURRENT ISSUES IN GENERAL."

3. COMMENT: SYRIAN MEDIA STRESSED PORTION OF COMMUNIQUE
UPHOLDING SYRO-PALESTINIAN COHESION, THEREBY PUBLICIZING
SARG CLAIM THAT SYRIA REMAINS AS DEVOTED AS EVER TO
PROMOTION OF PALESTINIAN CAUSE. COMMUNIQUE DID NOT CONVEY
IMPRESSION OF SYRIAN PRESSURE EXERTED ON GATHERING AS DAMASCUS MEDIA
HAD DONE FOLLOWING MEETING BETWEEN ASAD AND CC MEMBERS.
MURPHY

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